

# **CHALLENGES IN CELLULAR, TISSUE, AND GENE THERAPY PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT IN THE CT ARENA**

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# Office of Cellular, Tissue, and Gene Therapies

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- Regulatory/review responsibility for tissues, cellular, gene therapies, and xenotransplantation products
- Regulatory programs and scientific research to assure the continued safety, identity, purity, and potency of these products
- Collaborative reviews for combination products that consist of cells/tissues combined with a drug or device

# **OCTGT Counterterrorism Strategy**

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- **Encourage and facilitate development of novel cellular, tissue, and gene therapy products as medical countermeasures**
- **Safeguard integrity of tissue supply**

# **Regulatory Concerns Common to all Biologicals**

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- **Safety, efficacy, identity, purity, potency**
- **Regulation of both product and process**
- **Quality control of product and intermediates**
- **Reproducibility of lots**

**Challenges of Expedited CT  
Development**

# Regulatory and Approval Process

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*CBER encourages early interaction with sponsor*

pre-IND

Safety

IND phase I

Efficacy

IND phase II

Efficacy

Safety  
IND phase III

Product License

## MONITORING

annual reports  
amendments

post-approval surveillance  
adverse reaction monitoring  
lot release data review

# CT Product Development

pre-pre-IND

pre-IND

*CBER encourages VERY early and  
FREQUENT interaction with sponsor*

Safety IND phase I

Efficacy IND phase II

Efficacy  
Safety IND phase III

Product License  
Phase IV

Product

Animal Rule

PharmTox

Clinical

Human  
Experience

# **OCTGT Counterterrorism Strategy**

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- **Biological, radiological, chemical, traumatic injuries**
- **Could be addressed with cell, tissue, gene therapy-based products**

***Repair, Replace, Restore, Regenerate***

# Challenges for Tissues

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- **Safeguard integrity of tissue supply**
  - Devise appropriate donor deferral contingencies
    - Infectious agent, radiological, chemical exposure
  - Adapt new donor screening tests
  - Assure that affected individuals do not cause inadvertent spread/exposure



# **Tissues: cGTPs**

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- **CGTP requirements govern the methods used in, and the facilities used for, the manufacture of HCT/Ps**
- **Intended to prevent the introduction, transmission and spread of communicable disease, and to preserve function and integrity**

**Extra vigilance when urgent need for tissues exists**

# **FDA Measures to Facilitate Potential Use of Human Tissue for CT/BT**

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- **Communication with industry**
  - regional shortages; emergency plans
- **Temporary exceptions to certain FDA requirements, when benefit outweighs risk**
  - E.g., waiver of requirement to use infectious disease test kits validated for cadaveric blood samples
- **Stockpiling of tissues**
  - However, many tissues have short shelf life—e.g., corneas, “fresh” refrigerated skin

# **Repair, Replace, Restore, Regenerate**

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- **Cellular Therapies**
- **Gene Therapies**
- **Cellular Therapies + Gene Therapies**
- **Tissue Engineering**
  - Combination Cell/Tissue with Device/Gene Therapy/Recombinant Protein

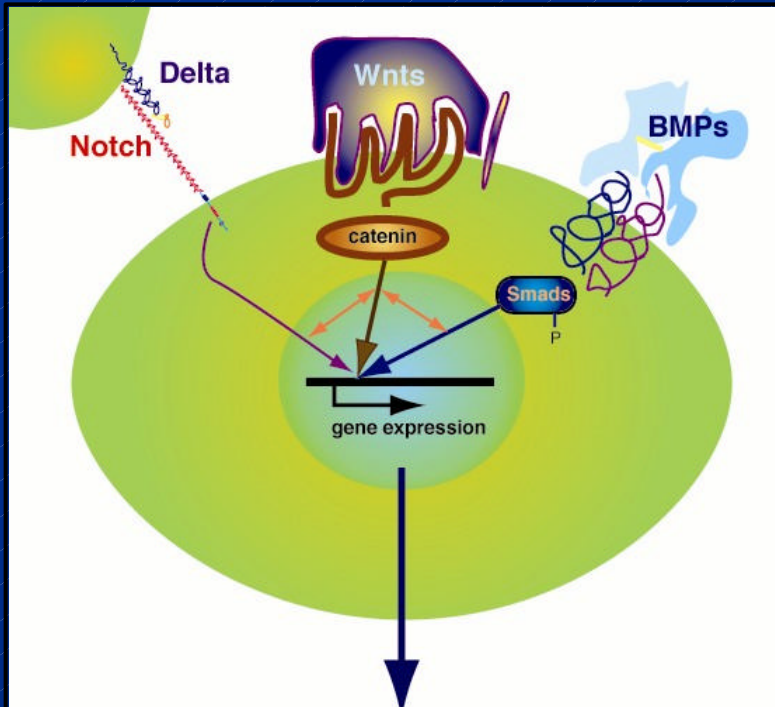
**Combination Products: Multiple FDA Centers**

# **CBER Research and Regulation**

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- **CBER Research/Review Model**
  - Scientists / Clinicians: lab based and full-time review staff
- **Challenges for CT use of cellular, tissue, and gene therapies**

# CBER research relevant to stem cells: Control pathways in development



**Signaling pathways crucial in differentiation and development:**

**Conserved in all metazoans**

(Work in model organisms cheaper, faster)

**Affect many stages of development**

**Cell types, cell fates**

**Repair and regeneration**

Cell fate	→	Cell Therapies
Cell renewal ('Stem-ness')	→	Stem Cells
Reprogramming (nuclear transfer)	→	"Cloning"
Fertilization/implantation	→	ART
Tissue organization	→	Combination Products
Organogenesis	→	Tissues, Regeneration and Repair

**Importance of the microenvironment**

# Cell Therapy Challenges

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- **Cell therapies hold great promise but present challenges to CBER**
  - **Measures of safety, quality, potency, efficacy complex**
    - sufficient characterization
    - appropriate differentiation
    - transformation
    - affected by *in vitro*, *in vivo* conditions

# Cellular Product Testing

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- Donor
- Incoming cellular or tissue sample
- Components and reagents used in manufacturing
  - Animal product- FBS, BSA, enzymes
  - Cell culture- MAbs
- Manufacturing intermediates
- Final product



# Cellular Product Safety

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- Sterility (21 CFR 610.12)
- Mycoplasma (21 CFR 610.30)
- Freedom from Adventitious Agents
- Pyrogenicity/Endotoxin (21 CFR 610.13)



# Cellular Product Identity/Purity

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- Cell Viability
  - Recommend  $>70\%$
  - Freedom from Extraneous Material
  - Media Components
    - E.g.: serum, cytokines
- Phenotypic Analysis
  - Cell Types
  - Quantitative assessment of each cell type present

Reproducibility

# Cellular Product Biological Activity

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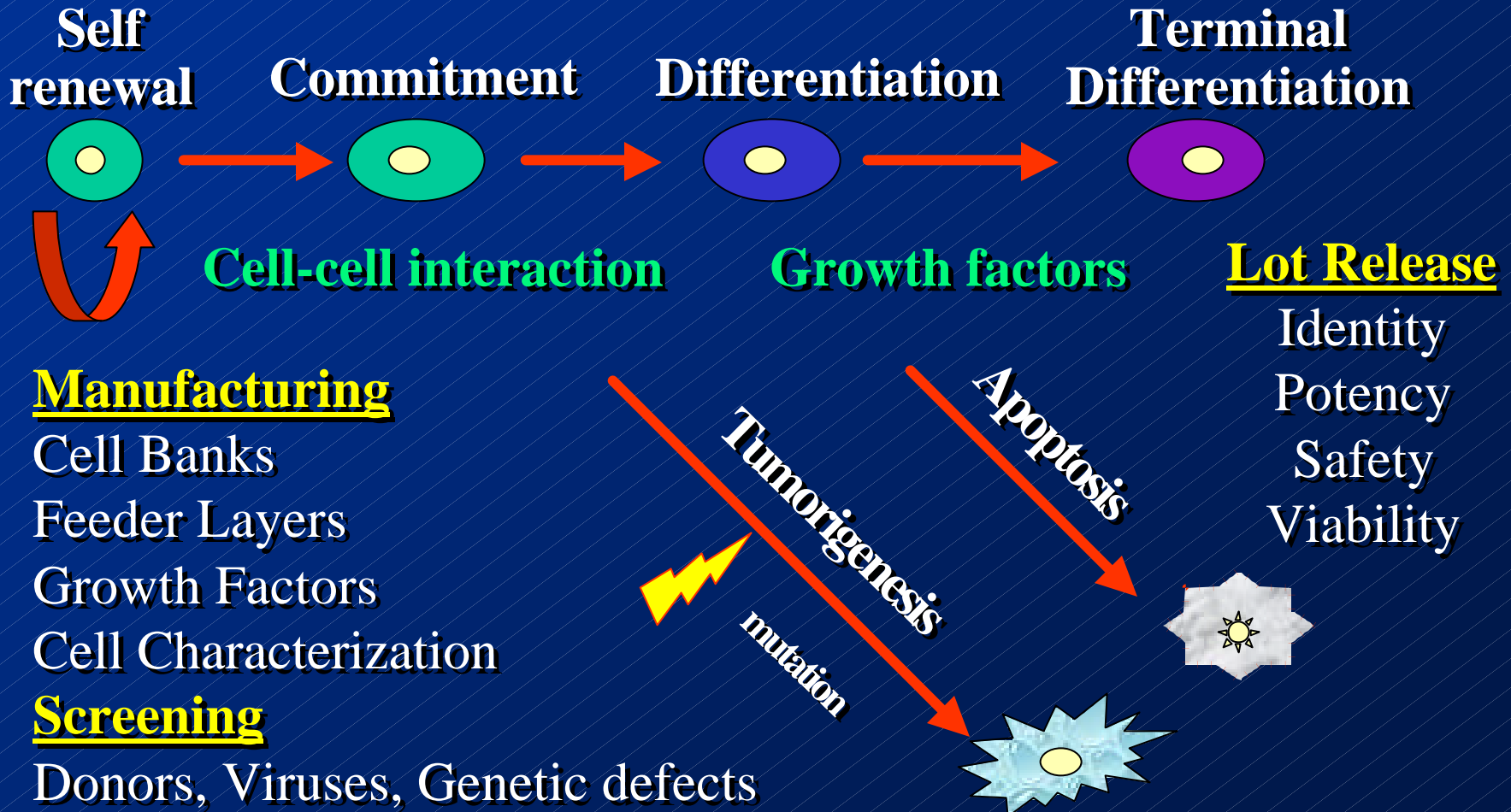
- **Assay that correlates with function of product**
  - **Gene expression pattern**
    - *In vitro* differentiation correlated with specific gene expression
  - **Expression of antigen**
    - Cytokine release assay correlated with expression of protein

**Correlation often challenging**

## Characterization

Gene expression profile,  
Antibodies, Enzymes,  
*In vitro* differentiation

**Developmental Stages**  
**Exogenous Influences**  
**Manufacturing Concerns**



**Draft Guidance for Reviewers: Instructions  
and Template for Chemistry,  
Manufacturing, and Control (CMC)  
Reviewers of Human Somatic Cell Therapy  
Investigational New Drug Applications  
(INDs) - 8/15/2003**

**<http://www.fda.gov/cber/guidelines.htm>**

# Gene Therapy Product Manufacturing

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- Vector manufacturing
  - Vector construction, characterization
  - Cell Banks
  - Virus Seed Stocks
  - Plasmid stocks
  - Vector Production/Purification Methods
  - Formulation of Final Product
  - Storage/Stability

# Gene Therapy Product Safety

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- **Safety Testing**
  - **Sterility**
  - **Mycoplasma**
  - **Adventitious Virus**
    - **in vitro and in vivo virus**
    - **bovine and porcine viruses (or certified reagents)**
    - **human viruses: EBV, HBV, HCV, CMV, HIV 1&2, HTLV 1 & 2, B19, AAV, (others)**
  - **Replication Competent Virus**

# Gene Therapy Product Characterization

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- **Identity**
  - restriction map+southern blot
  - nucleic acid sequence
- **Activity**
  - transgene specific
- **Titer**
- **Purity**
  - cell substrate DNA, RNA, protein, other reagents
- **Stability**
- **Potency**
  - Qualified assay required by end of phase II
  - Assay should reflect intended biological effect of product

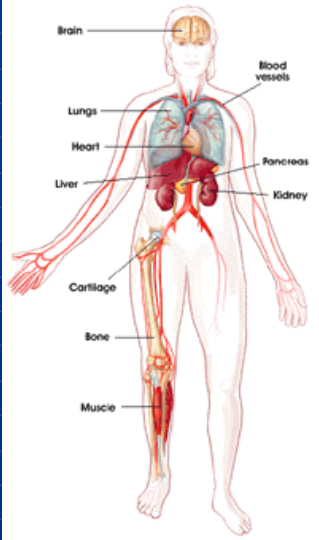


# Gene Therapy: Unique Safety Concerns

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- Viral Vectors: rescue of replicating virus
- Contamination of product with viruses from cells used in manufacture
- Inadvertent germ-line gene transfer
- Integration into genome
  - Insertional mutagenesis





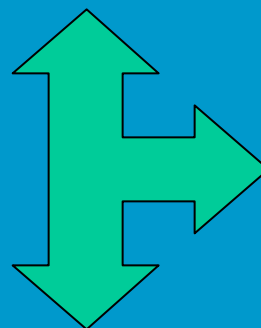
# CT Product Development

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- CBER-Sponsor interactions: early and often
- Encourage novel cell, tissue, and gene therapy products
- Repair, replace, restore, regenerate

Product

Animal Rule



PharmTox

Clinical

Human Experience

# **CBER/OCTGT Contact Information**

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- **PHONE: 800-835-4709 or 301-827-2000**
- **INTERNET: <http://www.fda.gov/cber>**
- **Send e-mail to: [OCTMA@CBER.FDA.GOV](mailto:OCTMA@CBER.FDA.GOV) or [MATT@CBER.FDA.GOV](mailto:MATT@CBER.FDA.GOV)**
- **CBER Regulatory and Guidance Documents on the Internet at: <http://www.fda.gov/cber/guidelines.htm>**
- **Bauer@CBER.FDA.GOV**
- **301-827-0684**

# Information OCTGT Products

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- Guidance for Industry: Guidance for Human Somatic Cell Therapy and Gene Therapy, March 1998.
- PTC in the Characterization of Cell Lines to Produce Biologicals, CBER, FDA, 1993.
- Proposed Approach to Regulation of Cellular and Tissue-Based Products, February 1997.
- ICH Harmonized Tripartite Guideline: Viral Safety Evaluation of Biotechnology Products Derived from Cell Lines of Human or Animal Origin

# Information on HCT/Ps

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- Website at [www.fda.gov/cber/tiss.htm](http://www.fda.gov/cber/tiss.htm)
  - Form 3356 – Registration/Listing
  - Published documents and letters
  - Meeting  
minutes/summaries/transcripts/presentations
- E-mail address for registration questions  
[tissueregs@cber.fda.gov](mailto:tissueregs@cber.fda.gov)
- HCTERS Queries – information on  
registered establishments  
<http://intranet.fda.gov/cber/tissue/hcters.htm>